

# Wisconsin Crop Manager

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## UW-River Falls Field Scout Training Class

The University of Wisconsin-River Falls, UW-Extension and the Integrated Pest Management Program are co-sponsoring the IPM Field Scout Training Class which will be held on the UW-River Falls campus, March 27-28, 2013. This training session will provide instruction on several pest and nutrient management topics (pest identification, life cycle, damage symptoms, economic thresholds and scouting techniques for insects, weeds, plant pathogens, herbicide injury and nutrient deficiency symptoms for corn, alfalfa, soybean and wheat, soil sampling, plant tissue testing).



Dr. Francisco Arriaga, Univ of Wisconsin Soil & Water Management specialist, teaches at the IPM field scout training class held in January in Madison.

[2013 Schedule for UW-River Falls Field Scout Training ...](#)  
(89.1 KB)

CCA Credits approval has been granted for 11.5 credits in Pest Management and 2.0 credits in Nutrient Management.

The class has a \$50 student registration fee. Non-student registration fee is \$100/person. The fee covers the cost of the training and the Field Crop Scout Training Manual.

To register online using a credit card:

<https://www.patstore.wisc.edu/ipm/register.asp>

To register by check, send name, phone number, address and/or email address and a check payable to UW-Extension to:

Bryan Jensen  
Dept. of Entomology  
1630 Linden Drive  
Madison, WI 53706.

For more information call Bryan Jensen at (608) 263-4073 or email at [bmjensel@facstaff.wisc.edu](mailto:bmjensel@facstaff.wisc.edu)

## 2013 Update- "What's on your seed?"

The "What's on your seed?" poster, which was developed by the University of Wisconsin UW Extension and the Nutrient and Pest Management Program, has been updated for 2013!

Significant additions include small grains seed treatments now on the chart. In addition, all trade names and active ingredients have been brought up to date according to current pesticide labels in Wisconsin. A hardcopy of the chart can be requested by email at [npm@hort.wisc.edu](mailto:npm@hort.wisc.edu). You can also download a PDF version by visiting the link below.

[http://ipcm.wisc.edu/download/pubsPM/Whats\\_on\\_your\\_seed\\_FINAL\\_4.pdf](http://ipcm.wisc.edu/download/pubsPM/Whats_on_your_seed_FINAL_4.pdf)



"What's on your seed?"

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## New Extension Fruit Crop Entomologist at UW-Madison

Dr. Christelle Guédot has joined the Department of Entomology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison as the new fruit crop extension entomologist.



Christelle Guédot grew up in Montpellier, southern France, where she obtained her undergraduate degree in physiology and cell biology and her Master's degree in neurobiology. Christelle then moved to the US in 1998 and obtained her PhD from Utah State University in Logan, UT, where she worked on the nest location and nest recognition of two solitary bees, i.e. the alfalfa leaf-cutting bee and the blue orchard bee, two commercially important pollinators.

Christelle moved in 2005 to Yakima, WA, where she worked at the USDA-ARS laboratory on the biology, behavior, electrophysiology, and chemical ecology of pest insects of fruit trees and vegetables.

As the new Extension Fruit Crop Entomologist, Christelle is excited to combine her doctoral and post-doctoral experience to further the understanding of plant-insect interactions in fruit crops. Her research program focuses on 1) developing and refining effective, economical, and environmentally sound insect pest management (IPM) strategies; 2) determining the importance of pollinators and developing strategies for conserving and enhancing pollination services for fruit crops in Wisconsin. The focus of her extension program is to provide up to date, research-based information to Wisconsin fruit growers on effective and sustainable IPM practices and on pollination services.

If you would like to contact Christelle she can be reached by email at Dr. Christelle Guédot. Information about Christelle's program at UW can be found at <http://www.entomology.wisc.edu/users/guedot>

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## Commercial pesticide applicators can schedule certification exams online

Commercial pesticide applicators can now schedule their certification exams online, which means they no longer need to call during office hours to register for the tests. Commercial

applicators in all categories can go to <http://pestexam.datcp.wi.gov> to register to take the exams.

They may also continue to schedule exams by calling the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection at 608-224-4548, 7:45 a.m.-4:30 p.m. weekdays. Private applicators must still schedule their exams with their county extension agents. The online registration site also provides information about how to buy a training manual, what happens when you arrive to take your exam, and directions to exam locations, along with answers to frequent questions. Commercial pesticide applicators must take a certification exam every five years.

The department administers more than 3,000 exams each year. The exams test applicators' knowledge of safely using, storing, handling and disposing of pesticides. The exams are designed for many different types of applications, such as landscape, agricultural, and structural use. Applicators must pass an exam for each type of application they do. They must also be licensed every year.

Donna Gilson 608-224-5130 [donna.gilson@wi.gov](mailto:donna.gilson@wi.gov)

Jim Dick, Communications Director, 608-224-5020 [jim.dick@wi.gov](mailto:jim.dick@wi.gov)

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## Cover Crops for Forage, Crop Insurance Rules Change

Paul D. Mitchell, Agricultural and Applied Economics, UW-Madison

For the 2013 crop year, the USDA has changed crop insurance rules pertaining to the insurability of crops planted after cover crops. Wisconsin farmers may want to take advantage of these changes to satisfy their forage needs or to earn some extra income. In short, farmers can now harvest and/or graze cover crops before May 10 or planting the following crop (whichever comes first) and still insure the following crop, as long as the cover crop is terminated before planting or before it reaches the headed or budded stage. Many Wisconsin growers would like to use cover crops for forage, but previous and current crop insurance rules restrict some practices if the following crop is to be insured.

In previous years and under the new rules, a grower can still harvest or graze the cover crop in the fall without affecting the insurability of the crop planted the next spring. Also, in previous years and under the new rules, a grower must still terminate the cover crop before it reaches the headed or budded stage. The new rules clarify that the cover crop must be terminated before planting the following crop, which was never explicitly stated in the previous rules. The key change is that the new rules allow a grower to harvest and/or graze the cover crop in the spring before May 10 or planting the follow crop, whichever comes first. Previous rules did not allow harvesting of a cover crop in the spring if the following crop was to be insured. Also, the new rules clarify that a cover crop must be planted within the 12 months prior to planting the insured crop, which may impact those who frost seeded clover into winter wheat in early spring of 2012. Just as under previous rules, this 12-month rule also does not allow insuring a crop planted

into an existing alfalfa stand after harvesting a first crop of hay or haylage.

Growers with cover crops currently in their fields may want to take advantage of these rule changes, but there are other factors to consider as well. Cover crops use soil moisture and so can reduce yields for the following crop if adequate rainfall does not occur. With many areas of Wisconsin still under drought conditions, growers will have to assess their soil moisture and rainfall expectations next spring before deciding whether they want to harvest a cover crop. They will have to balance their forage needs and forage prices against soil moisture conditions and expected grain prices. Additionally, herbicide labels can restrict the use of cover crops for forage. Some common corn and soybean herbicide labels do not allow rotating to a food or feed crop, which includes cover crops used for forage, for several months after application on a crop. See the article by Vince Davis for more details:

<http://ipcm.wisc.edu/download/pubsPM/9-19-12-Cover-Crops-used-for-forages.pdf>. For more general information, including specific cover cropping practices and options under previous crop insurance rules, see the fact sheet Cover Crops and Crop Insurance:

<http://www.aae.wisc.edu/pdmitchell/CropInsurance/CoverCrops.pdf>.

Finally, farmers should always communicate with their crop insurance agent, who should know these rules and can tell a farmer whether or not a specific practice will affect insurability.

